

Saint Paul's Parish

174 Whisconier Road

Brookfield, CT 06804

(Episcopal/Anglican)
(203) 775-9587 (Office)
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The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

10:30 am - Christmas Pageant & Holy Eucharist

Celebrant ~ The Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Jung-Chul Lee



Welcome

The Lighting of Three Candles on the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Today we light the first, second and third candles of the Advent wreath.

Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE; the second candle is

PEACE; and the third candle is JOY.

The candles are lit.

Scripture: You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will

burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their

hands. Isaiah 55:12

Celebrant: Let us pray together. Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh

and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light in the world. Through Jesus Christ, who

makes our joy complete. Amen.

St. Paul's Christmas Pageant 2025

For each carol, we ask the congregation to please join in for all the verses

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Sung by Congregation, seated

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Mary & the Angel Gabriel

"The Angel Gabriel"

Sung by Congregation, seated

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," Gloria!

The Journey to Bethlehem

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Sung by Congregation, seated

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!

and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

Angels Announce His Birth to Shepherds

"The First Nowell"

Sung by Congregation, seated

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherd in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They look-ed up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Shepherds Find Jesus

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Sung by Congregation, seated

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Peace on each and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;

with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

Christ by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

The Three Wisemen

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Sung by Congregation, seated

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; heaven sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

"Away in the Manger"

Sung by Children only

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Instrumental Interlude

Sung by Congregation, standing

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in they tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Thank you to everyone who made today's Christmas pageant a memorable event.

Please join us downstairs in our parish hall following the service for coffee hour to celebrate our children and the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements Please be seated for the announcements

All stand as able for hymns

Offertory Hymn "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry" Hymnal 76

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

(Remain standing as able)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and

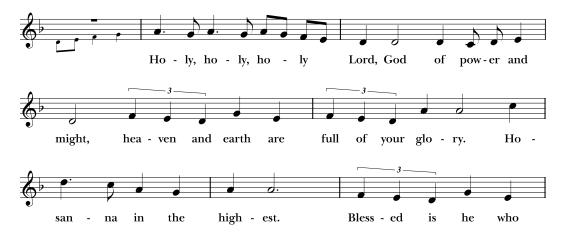
in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty,

everlasting God, for by your glory you cause the wilderness to spring forth in bloom. Through living waters you quench the desert, giving drink to the thirsty, strengthening weak hands, and making feeble knees firm. You calm the fearful heart, cause the blind to see, the deaf to hear, the lame to walk, the mute to sing with joy. Through the good news of Jesus Christ, we are saved by your grace, that we may proclaim to the world, "Here is our God." Therefore, with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven,

we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and

singing:

Sanctus Hymnal S-129





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

You may stand, sit or kneel.

Celebrant

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and

heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

A11:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God: Agnus Dei



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace

The Prayer of Humble Access

All:

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with

thanksgiving.

Please follow the ushers directions for receiving the Eucharist at the altar rail.

• Let an usher know if you prefer to remain seated at your pew for distribution of the Bread and Wine.

Communion Hymn "Come, thou long-expected Jesus" <u>Hymnal 66</u>

Communion Hymn "Let all mortal flesh keep silence" <u>Hymnal 324</u>

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let

Let us pray.

All:

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant:

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. Amen.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. Amen.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

"Blest be the King whose coming"

Hymnal 74

Dismissal

Priest:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

A11.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"In Dulci Jubilo"

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow



"Celebrating 240 years in the Spirit"

St. Paul's Christmas Calendar

Sunday, December 14th 5 pm - Service of Lessons & Carols

Wednesday, December 24th 10 am - Holy Baptism

5 pm - Family Christmas Eve Service

9 pm - Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 25th 9 am - Christmas Day Service

HIGHLIGHTS:

Lessons and Carols: - Our annual Festival of Lessons and Carols will be this afternoon at 5:00 pm. Join us for this special service and bring a friend.

Salvation Army - The Salvation Army kettles are here this week & next. The proceeds go to the Human Services Department in our town, who reviews those who have "critical and urgent needs" that cannot be met through other funding sources.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Adult Advent Series - Is looking at the six major streams of faith and practice that define Christian tradition. Based on Richard Foster's landmark book, "Streams of Living Water: Essential Practices from the Six Great Traditions of Christian Faith," let's learn together how the great traditions of the Church can deepen our faith and shape us into people who live, love, and serve like Jesus. The class starts at 9:30 am each Sunday in the Guild Room.

Quilt Drawing - Once again, just in time for Christmas our Quilters are holding their annual drawing. Come to coffee hour to check out this year's Christmas themed masterpiece quilts, lovingly made by our award winning quilters. Tickets will be available after each service December 14 & 21st in Crocker Hall.

UPCOMING:

Christmas Flowers - Anyone wishing to remember loved ones and friends with a poinsettia plant that will be decorating the church for the Christmas services may do so by filling out one of the envelopes on the table at the back of the church; send an email request to dszen@yahoo.com or contact David Szen. All Christmas memorials are due by Dec. 21st to be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Coats & Socks Drive - During the winter months we collect used coats and new socks (preferably white) to benefit the various agencies in Danbury supported by the Jericho Partnership. Leave the coats on the rack and socks in the basket in the back of the church.

End of Year Donations - All money to be credited to your 2025 account MUST be in the Parish Office by December 31st. Any money received after December 31st will be credited to your 2026 account.

Potential Tax Savings - If you meet the following requirements, your normal donation to Saint Paul's can result in a tax savings for you. This program is called "A Qualified Charitable Distribution." The two requirements are: 1) The contributor must be 70 years and 6 months old. 2) A retirement account must already be in place. This can be an IRA or a 401K account. For further information contact Jim Miller at (203) 426-4022 or Chuck Allen at stpaulstreasurer@charter.net.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFO:

Name Tags - Please be courteous to fellow parishioners, newcomers, Bishop Ahrens, and guests by extending a warm welcome to them and by wearing your name tag. You can leave them in the baskets at the doors as you leave for refiling. And remember to wear them to coffee hour.

Please Use Microphone - When making announcements, please use the lectern or the handheld microphone. Even though you think you have a strong voice, people watching online or in the back of the church cannot hear you.

Coffee Gathering - Following this service, join us downstairs in Crocker Hall for coffee.

Sunday School - Sunday School classes start at 10:40 am. During advent bring your children directly into church with you for the lighting of the Advent Candles after which they will be directed to their classrooms. Children will return to their parent or guardian before the start of Communion.

Our Daily Bread - The *Our Daily Bread* devotional pamphlet for December, January & February is now available at the back of the church. E-mail <u>dszen@yahoo.com</u> to have a copy mailed to you. *Our Daily Bread* contains a scripture verse and meditation for each day.

The Priest-in-Charge Weekly - Fr. Nate has a weekly e-mail, "The Priest-in-Charge Weekly," to communicate things directly from his desk to yours. If you did not receive his e-mail this week and would like to, write Fr. Nate at priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com and let him know.

Our Facilities - Our restrooms are located downstairs at the rear of our parish hall. Take the stairway to the right as you exit the sanctuary. The restrooms are located on the far left, across from the kitchen. A play area for our young ones is also set up in the parish hall as well as live streaming and audio of the service on a wide screen TV. In addition, coloring book packages are available for youngsters to use in the pews. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

Calendar For The Week

(We welcome and encourage parishioners to come to any of these ministries.)

(Check website for up to date Zoom links - www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com

Sun., Dec 14		Traditional Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live) Adult Class, Guild Room
	10:30 am -	Christmas Pageant & Contemporary Holy Eucharist
		(YouTube Live)
	5:00 pm -	Lessons & Carols (YouTube Live)
Mon., Dec 15	7:00 pm -	Men's Bible Study, Crocker Hall (YouTube Live)
Tue., Dec 16	9:30 am -	Ladies Tuesday AM Bible Study, Guild Room
Wed., Dec 17	10:00 am -	Holy Eucharist & Healing (YouTube Live)
	7:00 pm -	Women's Evening Bible Study, Zoom
Thu., Dec 18	9:30 am -	Iron Sharpens Iron Discussion Group, Guild Room
	7:30 pm -	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Fri., Dec 19	10:00 am -	St. Paul's Walking Group, Richter Park, Danbury
Sat., Dec 20	7:30 am -	John 21:12 Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford
	8:00 am -	Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall
Sun., Dec 21	8:00 am -	Traditional Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
	9:30 am -	Adult Class, Guild Room
	10:30 am -	Contemporary Holy Eucharist (YouTube Live)
	10:00 am -	Sunday School, Classrooms



Next Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am & 10:30 am Preacher: Rev. Nate Lee

Readings for December 21st

<u>Isaiah 35:1-10</u> - <u>Psalm 146:4-9</u> - <u>James 5:7-10</u> - <u>Matthew 11:2-11</u>

